

Application No. 10/805,895
Office Action dated: 12/07/2005
Response to Office Action dated: 03/24/2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace sheets 4/6, 5/6 and 6/6 with the attached Replacement Sheet 4/6, 5/6 and 6/6.

REMARKS

Claims 13-20 are pending.

This Amendment and Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated December 7, 2005, in which the Examiner:

objected to informalities in claims 13-20;

rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite;

rejected claims 1-4, 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 5,186,129 to Magnan et al.;

rejected claims 5, 6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,186,129 to Magnan et al.; and

indicated claims 14-20 are allowable over the prior art.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Regarding the objections to informalities in claims 13-20, Applicant respectfully submits that amendment to claim 13 fully addresses the Examiner's objections. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to claims 13-20 be withdrawn.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 1-4 and 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Magnan. Claims 5, 6 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Magnan. Although Applicant traverses the rejections, for

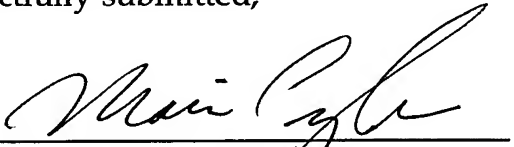
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purposes of expediting the prosecution of the present application, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-12.

Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in the current Amendment constitutes new matter. Claim amendments were made for conformity with U.S. practice and do not affect the scope of the claims. Having traversed each and every objection and rejection, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 13-20 be passed to issue.

Applicant hereby petitions for a one-month extension of time in order to file a Response to Office Action on the above-identified application. The fee of \$120.00 required under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.17(a) to (d), which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

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